

Sunshine Canyon Landfill Odor Mitigation Update

South Coast Air Quality Management District
(AQMD)

Edwin L. Pupka, Senior Enforcement Manager



Sunshine Canyon Landfill - Background

- On December 12, 2009, AQMD's Hearing Board was first convened to consider AQMD's petition for an Order for Abatement
- In April 22, 2010, the AQMD Hearing Board issued a Stipulated Order for Abatement followed by four (4) Amended Orders for Abatement through 2013
- For those Order for Abatement hearings, the Hearing Board received public testimony here at AQMD headquarters and at two (2) local community locations:
 - Van Gogh Elementary School
 - City of Van Nuys / City Council Chambers
- The last Stipulated Order for Abatement ended in December 2013

Sunshine Canyon Landfill – Interagency Working Group

- Convened and spearheaded by AQMD as part of a concerted effort to further reduce odors emanating from the landfill
- Working Group members also included Sunshine Canyon Landfill Local Enforcement Agency, City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning, County of Los Angeles Regional Planning, and the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works
- Following numerous interagency meetings, on June 24, 2013, the Task Force finalized and distributed recommendations
- AQMD recommended that the mitigation measures be implemented by all the participating agencies within their respective areas of purview and jurisdictional authority

Recent AQMD Actions

Contracts for Consultation Services

- Through a Supplemental Environmental Project, AQMD hired two (2) contractors. Republic Services, Inc. is required to reimburse AQMD for the cost of the contracts for a study of the landfill
 - Analysis of odor control problems at Sunshine Canyon Landfill
 - Develop gas flow characteristics at the landfill, identify and quantify the mechanisms that are creating odor emissions, and develop solutions.
- AQMD's Governing Board approved contract in October 2013

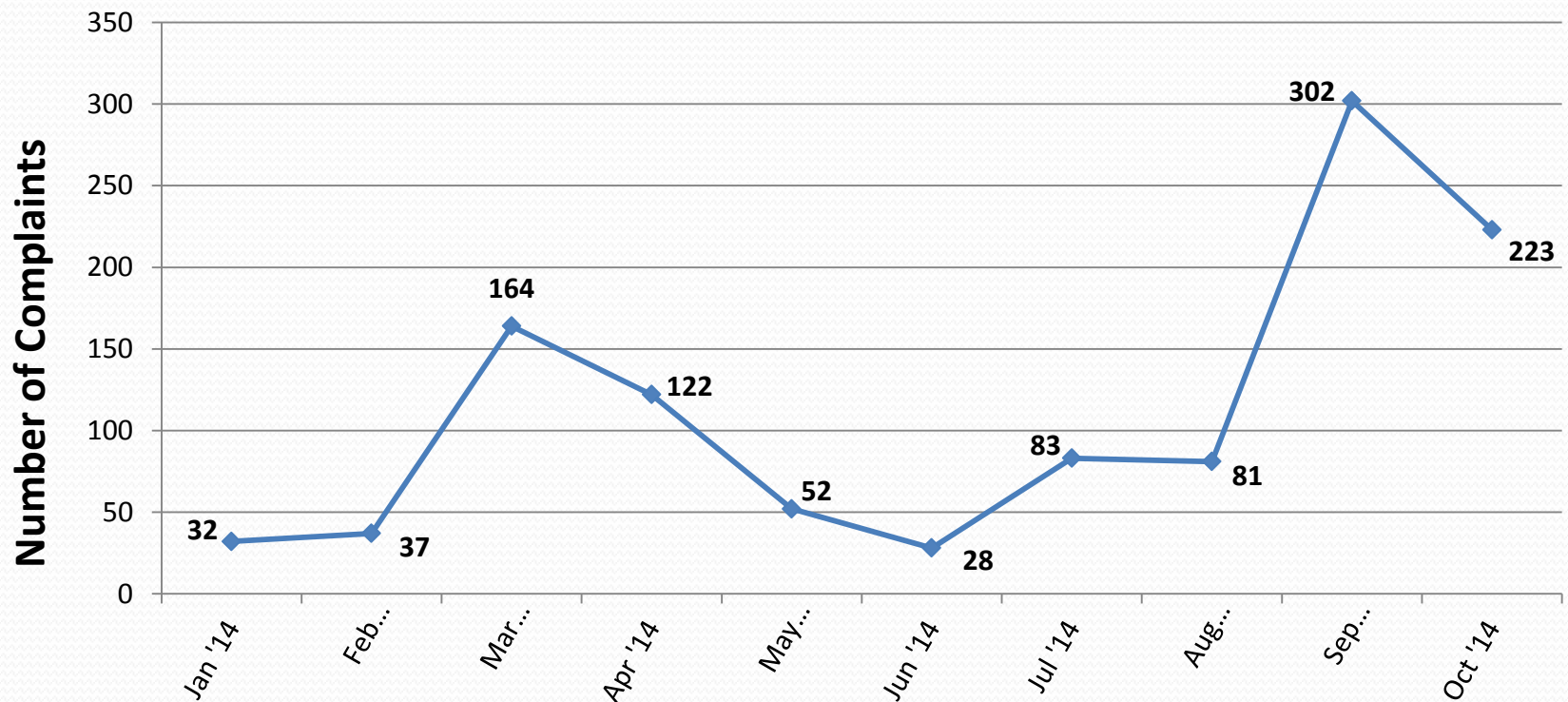
AQMD Contracts for Consultation Services con't.

- Hydro Geo Chem., Inc.
 - Site visits, retrieval and review of relevant landfill documents
 - Develop flow model and work plan
 - Three (3) landfill study areas / field investigation (landfill gas production, gas permeabilities, surface variability of landfill gas production)
 - Oversight of probe installation / field measurements / well shut-in and recovery
 - Data analysis
 - Reporting / presentation of results
 - Landfill gas odor control
 - Conceptual description / design of a odor control system

AQMD Contracts for Consultation Services con't.

- Also hired a second consultant: Ramin Yazdani, Ph.D., P.E.
 - Consult and advise AQMD and Hydro Geo Chem
 - Landfill Gas Odor Control System:
 - Planning
 - Field-testing
 - Conceptual flow
 - Conceptual design of the landfill gas odor control system

Odor Complaints Reported to the AQMD Alleging Sunshine Canyon Landfill as the Source (January 2014 to Present)



Sunshine Canyon Landfill Complaint Response / Enforcement Action (January 2014 to Present)

- Total Number of Complaints Received: 1125
- Number of Complaints Responded To: 827
- Odors Detected by AQMD Inspector: 501 (61%)
- Odor Not Detected by AQMD Inspector: 325 (39%)
- Odors Characterization:
 - Landfill Gas: 58%
 - Trash: 41%
 - With the exception of few instances, odors were mild and fleeting
- Twenty-seven (27) Notices of Violation Issued (Nuisance)

Sunshine Canyon Landfill: Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facility



Title V Public Consultation Meeting – April 18, 2012

- Purpose of Meeting
 - ☐ Combine two separate Proposed Permit Actions into one meeting to be more convenient for community members
 - ☐ Proposed Sunshine Gas Producers LLC (SGP) Gas to Energy Plant Title V Permit to Construct
 - ☐ Proposed Sunshine Canyon Landfill (SCL) Title V Permit Renewal and Revisions
 - ☐ Provide information regarding proposed permit actions for:
 - ☐ New Equipment
 - ☐ Existing Operations
 - ☐ Associated Emissions
 - ☐ Provide opportunity for public input

Sunshine Canyon Landfill: Landfill Gas-to-Energy Facility / Project Description

- Major equipment installed are:
 1. Landfill gas treatment system, approximately 9000 scfm, designed to compress the gas and remove water and contaminants with media-filled absorption vessels
 - The system automatically regenerates the media.
 2. Enclosed flare to control emissions from the regeneration system off-gases
 3. Five identical Solar Mercury 50 gas turbines to generate gross total of 25 MW electricity, with net maximum export to the utility grid of 20 MW.

Gas-to-Energy Facility: Project Timeline

- AQMD was the lead agency for CEQA and the air permits
- The DRAFT Title V Permit was released on January 1, 2012 to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and to the Public
- A Title V Public Consultation Community Meeting was held on April 18, 2012
- AQMD issued the Title V permit on April 27, 2012
- Construction completed in Spring 2014
- Commercial production started in September 2014

Steps Forward

- Consultants final report and recommendations expected to be completed January 2015
- AQMD review and evaluation of study's findings and recommendations and evaluation of other potential odor mitigation measures to be implemented at the landfill
- Petition for Proposed Order for Abatement to be filed with AQMD's Hearing Board early 2015